



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/076,108

02/15/2002

Olaf Zaencker

449122022100

8552

7590

06/01/2006

Kevin R. Spivak
Morrison & Foerster LLP
Suite 5500
2000 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006-1888

EXAMINER

DUONG, DUC T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 06/01/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/076,108

Applicant(s)

OLAF, ZAENCKER

Examiner

Duc T. Duong

Art Unit

2663

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5 and 8-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3,4,6 and 7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1, 2, 5, and 8-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sand (US Patent 6,512,746 B1).

Regarding to claims 1 and 16, Sand discloses a system comprising a detecting unit 32, arranged at a detection point on a transmission channel between a first 38 (left-end) and a second 38 (right-end) VoIP endpoints to detect a first number of RTP speech packets transmitted in a direction of the second VoIP endpoint (fig. 3 col. 5 lines 55-62), and to detect a second number of the RTP speech packets transmitted in a direction of the first VOIP endpoint (fig. 3 col. 6 lines 21-22); and an arithmetic processing unit 54 INMD connected on the input side to the detecting unit to calculate a

Art Unit: 2616

value representing the transmission quality (i.e. speech level, noise, echo, path delay) from the first and second numbers (fig. 4 col. 6 lines 23-28).

Regarding to claims 2 and 13, Sand discloses a predetermined time period of detection for a 10 Mbit/s transmission channel longer than 5s or 10s (fig. 7 col. 7 line 66-67 and col. 8 lines 1-6).

Regarding to claims 5 and 18, Sand discloses the value representing the transmission quality is subjected to a threshold value discrimination in order to suppress side effects due to features of the communication protocol (col. 6 lines 29-31).

Regarding to claims 8 and 19, Sand discloses the detected first and second numbers and/or the calculated values for a plurality of first and second VoIP endpoints connected to the IP network between which bidirectional speech connections exist in each case are logged (col. 5 lines 63-65).

Regarding to claims 9 and 20, Sand discloses the detected first and second numbers for the first and second VoIP endpoints connected to the IP network within which bidirectional speech connections exist in each case are subjected to summarizing statistical processing to obtain an overall value representing the overall transmission quality of the IP network or of a section of the overall transmission quality of the IP Network (fig. 5 col. 6 lines 56-67).

Regarding to claims 10 and 21, Sand discloses the value representing the transmission quality is signaled to subscribers at the first and/or second VoIP endpoints and/or to an operation control center of the IP network (col. 6 lines 32-33).

Regarding to claims 11 and 12, Sand discloses the value representing the transmission quality is determined in real-time (col. 5 lines 55-62) and is used as an input variable for controlling the speech transmission over the IP network (col. 6 lines 34-40).

Regarding to claims 14 and 15, Sand discloses a method comprising detecting 32 at a detection point on a transmission channel between a first 38 (left-end) and a second 38 (right-end) VoIP endpoints a first number of RTP speech packets transmitted in a direction of the second VoIP endpoint (fig. 3 col. 5 lines 55-62), and a second number of the RTP speech packets transmitted in a direction of the first VOIP endpoint (fig. 3 col. 6 lines 21-22); and arithmetically process 54 INMD a value representing the transmission quality (i.e. speech level, noise, echo, path delay) from the first and second numbers (fig. 4 col. 6 lines 23-28); and routing the connection between the first and second VoIP endpoints based on the value 26 (fig. 3 col. 5 lines 1-10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sand.

Regarding to claim 17, Sand discloses all the limitations with respect to claim 16, except for the arithmetic processing unit has a division or subtraction stage. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the

invention, to include a division or subtraction function since such functions are well-known mathematical functions that can be implemented using gate array.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 3, 4, 6, and 7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed March 13, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding to applicant's argument on pages 6-7 with respect to claims 1, 2, 5, and 8-21, Sand fails to teach for determined the first **number** and second **number** of RTP speech packets. In response, examiner would like to direct applicant to col. 5 lines 55-58. Herein, Sand discloses the IP voice datagram(s) encapsulated in RTP frames are collected for computing various parameters relating to the transmission quality. Though, Sand does not explicitly teach for the **number** of RTP packets, it is inherent in Sand that the plurality of IP datagrams collected represents some **number** of RTP frames. Furthermore, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., determining or counting the number of RTP speech packet) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). The limitation "arithmetically processing the first and second **numbers** of RTP packets" does not read on the feature

Art Unit: 2616

"determining or counting the number of RTP speech packet" applicant argued in the remarks. Thus, based on the reasons set forth here the rejections are maintained.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duc T. Duong whose telephone number is 571-272-3122. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:00 AM-6:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy D. Vu can be reached on 571-272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2616

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DD
DD



HUY D. VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600